

SENATE RESOLUTION 169

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION relative to excessive noise in the State Capitol and Legislative Complex.

WHEREAS, the Senate of the State of Tennessee is aware of certain health hazards that come with working for or around the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, over the years the Senate has made various efforts to make the halls of the General Assembly safe from undo harm; and

WHEREAS, legislators seem to find their way to committee meetings without being summoned by a sound device; and

WHEREAS, the buzzer in the second-story hall of the State Capitol between the Senate and House Chambers has been recorded at over one hundred four decibels (104 Db); and

WHEREAS, continued exposure to any sound over ninety decibels (90 Db) can cause permanent hearing loss; and

WHEREAS, thus, the Senate may violate Tennessee occupational safety and health administration rules every time the buzzer is sounded; and

WHEREAS, constituents, school children, and Capitol Hill visitors should not be exposed to known health hazards; and

WHEREAS, members of the General Assembly may be reached by telephone, e-mail, twitter, cell phone, or text message to inform them of an upcoming meeting; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that because the buzzer that summons legislators to floor session is louder than necessary, the Chief Clerk of the Senate is hereby authorized and persuaded to reduce such buzzer's decibel level to a level that is still effective, but will protect the hearing of all who must endure the sound produced by such buzzer.